***FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (46/20)***

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*Justin Chadwick 13 November 2020*

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| ***“A jury consists of 12 persons chosen to decide who has the best lawyer” Robert Frost*** |

**CGA CITRUS SUMMIT**

The COVID pandemic has played havoc with those involved in trade shows and conferences. Many have adapted by moving to virtual platforms, while others have cancelled or postponed events. The CRI postponed their Citrus Research Symposium from August 2020 to August 2021. The CGA Board decided to postpone the popular CGA Citrus Summit from March 2021 to March 2022 – a wise decision given the ongoing disruptions experienced as a result of COVID 19. Fortunately all sponsors have supported the postponement – we will keep you posted.  
**DALRRD ANNUAL CITRUS COORDINATING MEETING**

We are all learning in the Zoom world – apologies to those who had to wait while we joined everybody to the new meeting – had no idea that the participant numbers were restricted to 100; with 150 participants FPEF (Werner van Rooyen) came to the rescue with his new meeting invitation and his enhanced Zoom package.

It was definitely a different Department Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) Annual Coordinating meeting – with a small core of DALRRD, CGA, CRI and PPECB delegates behind masks in a boardroom in Port Elizabeth, while the balance joined in via the Zoom platform. The information that was shared was excellent, and illustrated the value of a strong public-private-partnership.

A few important points (full presentations available on members section of CGA website [www.cga.co.za](http://www.cga.co.za) ):

* Big increase in clementine exports to USA; 2018: 533 437 cartons; 2019: 671 379 cartons; 2020 1 239 128 cartons (an annual increase of 85%). The Boland region doubled clementine exports to the USA.
* Similarly, big increase in orange exports to the USA: 2018: 2 545 574 cartons; 2019: 1 833 491 cartons; 2020: 3 041 780 cartons – a 66% increase from last year.
* Overall exports to the USA increased from 3 872 054 (2018) to 3 336 321 (2019) and to 5 5 12 864 cartons in 2020 – a 65.2% increase.
* Good relationships between DALRRD and colleagues in USA, South Korea and Japan meant that special arrangements were made for these pre-clearance programmes.
* Exports to Asian countries showed a different trend: exports to South Korea decreased from 565 835 cartons to 456 835 cartons; to Japan decreased from 2 142 532 cartons to 1 798 504 cartons; and to China decreased from 11 023 569 to 10 142 033 cartons.
* There were 8 break bulk vessels to Japan in 2020; 6 of these vessels were co-loaded with fruit to China.
* CBS and FCM interceptions on cargo to the EU were both lower than 2019 levels.
* For the 2021 season, phytosanitary registrations started on 19 October and will end on 20 November 2020.

**WORLD CITRUS ORGANISATION GLOBAL CITRUS CONGRESS: WHERE DID OVER 1 200 DELEGATES COME FROM?**

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| 1 | Belize, Chad, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, French Southern Territory, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Puerto Rica, Togo, Ukraine, Vietnam |
| 2 | Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Kuwait, Lithuania |
| 3 | Austria, Russia, , Tunisia, UAE |
| 4 | Greece, Poland, Portugal, Singapore |
| 5 | Canada **6**. Bolivia, Israel **9.** China, Zimbabwe |
| 10 | Ireland **11.** Belgium **13.** Turkey **16.** Uruguay |
| 17 | France **20.** Mexico **22.** Australia **23.** Dom Republic |
| 24 | India **26.** Chile **29.** Netherlands, Egypt **34.** Italy |